

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
TORRANCE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Torrance Parks and Recreation Commission convened in a regular session at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Baxter, Gilbert, Greenberg,  
Hays, Mayeda, Ning, and Chairperson Taniguchi.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Community Services Director Jones,  
Senior Business Manager Minter,  
Recreation Services Manager Brunette, and  
Park Services Manager Carson.

**3. FLAG SALUTE**

Commissioner Greenberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gilbert moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Mayeda seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**5A. MINUTES OF JANUARY 11, 2012**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gilbert moved to approve the minutes of the January 11, 2012 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting as submitted. Commissioner Mayeda seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1**

Torrance Youth Council members Diana Im, Anna Spallino, and Minji Kim introduced themselves.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

**7A. APPROVAL OF A PROPOSAL FOR TORRANCE BATTING CAGES**

Senior Business Manager Minter provided background and presented a proposal from Tyler Sports, Inc. to amend their Concessionaire Agreement to allow them to use part of the former Torrance Skate Park to expand their instructional programs. He noted the proposal in Attachment A and map of Torrance Batting Cages and proposed area in

Attachment B. He stated that Tyler Sports plans to use artificial turf that can be rolled across the area for instructional opportunities and rolled up if other user groups are booked for activities that require the space. He stated that the City has had a great relationship with Tyler Sports since 2008 and their proposal would provide additional revenue to the City. He recommended that the Commission approve the proposal and proceed with an amendment to the Agreement to be approved by City Council.

Commissioner Greenberg stated that Torrance needs a skate park because it has 30 schools and 26,000 students. She questioned why one cannot be built and expressed concern that the City would be giving up a valuable space that might be considered for a skate park in the future.

Senior Business Manager Minter assured her that no permanent changes were being made. He stated that Tyler Sports has two years remaining on their Agreement, with options for two additional two-year terms; however, at each point, the viability of a skate park could be reevaluated if funding becomes available or a funding source is identified.

Kevin Tyler, Fern Avenue, expressed his appreciation for the positive relationship he has had with the City and discussed ways Tyler Sports tries to give back to the community. He stated that the area would be used for fielding practice and individual training sessions.

Responding to Commissioner Mayeda's inquiry, he stated that the area of astro turf would be approximately 70 feet by 80 feet, surrounded by a 20 foot fence.

Senior Business Manager Minter provided clarification that Tyler Sports would not have exclusive use of the area and would need to schedule use through Facilities Booking.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Hays moved to approve the proposal from Tyler Sports, Inc., and to direct staff to proceed with an amendment to the Concessionaire Agreement to be approved by City Council. Commissioner Gilbert seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

## **7B. LIVING TREE DEDICATION PROGRAM 2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

Park Services Manager Carson presented the Living Dedication Tree Program 2011 Annual Report. He reported that a total of 338 Living Dedication trees have been planted throughout various City parks since the program's inception in 1992. In 2011, an additional 10 trees were planted at ten different parks as listed in Attachment A.

Commissioner Greenberg asked how many donations the City could handle and staff responded that the service involves a dedication ceremony and staff presentation and is not a simple process.

Senior Business Manager Minter explained that in the past donors were only asked to cover the cost of the tree but two years ago the fee schedule increased to recover costs associated with the event, noting that the donations have remained constant.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Gilbert moved to accept and file the Living Dedication Tree Program 2011 Annual Report. Commissioner Ning seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

**8. OLD BUSINESS**

**8A. STATUS OF SIGNAGE AT EL PRADO PARK**

Park Services Manager Carson reported that staff met with Janet Payne on January 19, 2012 to discuss placement, type, color, and style of signage at El Prado Park. He stated that they agreed to review the proposed design for Torrance Centennial Plaza before making any decisions; subsequently, staff has reviewed the design, prepared options for signage, and will discuss them with Ms. Payne on February 16, 2012.

**9. STANDING COMMITTEE UPDATES**

**9A. FACILITIES COMMITTEE**

Has not met.

**9B. GRANTS COMMITTEE**

Community Services Manager Jones reported that City Council approved the Commission's recommendation for the 2011-2012 Grant Program for Non-Profit Social Services Agencies.

**9C. OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Has not met.

**9D. PROGRAMS COMMITTEE**

Has not met.

**10. MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY**

**10A. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION**

Senior Business Manager Minter noted that the Administrative Services Division Report for January 2012 was included in agenda packets. He added that Seaside Heroes Park now has signage at the east entrance and that the signage on the west side was illuminated.

**10B. PARK SERVICES DIVISION**

Park Services Manager Carson noted that the Park Services Division Report for January 2012 was included in agenda materials. He announced that the contract for pest control services was approved, bids are being prepared for sports courts resurfacing, and irrigation improvements for Sea Aire Golf Course is expected to begin in November 2012.

**10C. RECREATION SERVICES DIVISION**

Recreation Services Manager Brunette noted that the Recreation Services Division Report for January 2012 was included in agenda packets. He distributed an email from Michael O'Kane dated February 3, 2012 that describes his swimming experience at Benstead Plunge.

**11. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC #2**

**11A.** Commissioner Gilbert encouraged Commissioners to see Torrance Theatre Company's, "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare."

**11B.** Chairperson Taniguchi wished everyone a happy Valentines Day.

**11C.** Community Services Director Jones shared information about the AARP Tax Aide for Seniors program that has relocated to El Prado Avenue.

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** At 7:35 p.m., Commissioner Mayeda moved to adjourn the meeting to March 14, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room. Commissioner Baxter seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Taniguchi so ordered.

Approved as Submitted March 14, 2012 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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